

Scaling near the critical point

We have defined the following critical exponents

$$C_V = -T \left(\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial T^2} \right)_{V,N} = C_0 |T - T_c|^{-\alpha} \quad (1)$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle(T) = -\frac{1}{N_0} \left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial h} \right|_{h=0} = \phi_0 (T_c - T)^\beta \quad (2) \quad T < T_c$$

For an external field h

$$\chi(T) = \left. \frac{\partial \langle \phi \rangle}{\partial h} \right|_{h=0} = - \left. \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial h^2} \right|_{h=0} = \chi_0 |T - T_c|^{-\gamma} \quad (3)$$

$$\langle \phi(\bar{x}) \phi(0) \rangle_c = \frac{e^{-|\bar{x}|/\xi(T)}}{|\bar{x}|^{d-2+\eta}} \quad (4)$$

$$\xi(T) = a |T - T_c|^{-\nu} \quad (5)$$

a = "lattice spacing"
= length cutoff

At $T = T_c$

$$\langle \phi(h) \rangle = \phi_0 h^{\frac{1}{\delta}} \quad (6)$$

It turns out that these exponents are not all independent. Relations between them can be derived by a single fundamental scaling assumption.

N_0 = # of sites

To motivate the scaling assumption consider a free energy $F(\tau, h)$ where $\tau = T - T_c$ (7) and h is the external field coupling to ϕ . In the Ising model, for example (8)

$$S(\tau, h) = \int d^d x \left\{ \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi)^2 + \frac{\tau}{2} \phi^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4} \phi^4 - h \phi}_{S_0} \right\}$$

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\phi(\bar{x}) e^{-S/T} = e^{-F(\tau, h)/T} \quad (9)$$

Let us integrate out the short-distance degrees of freedom between the lattice scale a and an intermediate scale ab

$b > 1$ (10) is a dimensionless scaling factor.

To be explicit, divide $\phi(\bar{x})$ into a slow part $\phi_{<}(\bar{x})$ and a fast part $\phi_{>}(\bar{x})$

$$\phi_{<}(\bar{x}) = \int_{(2\pi)^d} d^d k e^{i\bar{k} \cdot \bar{x}} \tilde{\phi}_{<}(\bar{k}) \quad (11)$$

$$\phi_{>}(\bar{x}) = \int_{(2\pi)^d} d^d k e^{i\bar{k} \cdot \bar{x}} \tilde{\phi}_{>}(\bar{k})$$

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\phi(\bar{x}) e^{-S/T} = \int \mathcal{D}\phi_{<}(\bar{x}) \int \mathcal{D}\phi_{>}(\bar{x}) e^{-S/T} \quad (12)$$

Under this procedure, we know that the couplings in S will change. Also, only the relevant couplings, τ and h , need be kept. So, under this rescaling

$$\tau \rightarrow \tau b^x \quad h \rightarrow h b^y \quad (13)$$

$x, y > 0$ come from the eigenvalues of the linearized RG eqⁿ near the fixed point.

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}\phi_{\leq}(\bar{x}) e^{-S(\tau b^x, h b^y)/T} e^{-\frac{F_{\text{reg}}(b)}{T}} \quad (15)$$

The last factor is an additive constant (in the sense that it does not contain $\phi_{\leq}(\bar{x})$) and is called the regular part of the Free energy. It cannot contain any singularities, because all singularities near T_c come from slow fluctuations.

Let the original number of sites be N_0 . After rescaling it becomes N_0/b^d .

Let us further define an intensive quantity $f =$ Free energy per site (16)

Since

$$F_{\text{sing}}(\tau, h) = F_{\text{sing}}(\tau b^x, h b^y) \quad (17)$$

we get the fundamental scaling relation

$$f_{\text{sing}}(\tau, h) = f_{\text{sing}}(\tau b^x, h b^y) / b^d \quad (18)$$

Often this is recast as follows. Let us choose b such that

$$\tau \bar{b}^x = 1 \Rightarrow \bar{b} = \tau^{-1/x} \quad (19)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_{\text{sing}}(\tau, h) = \tau^{d/x} \Psi\left(\frac{h}{\tau^{y/x}}\right) \quad (20)$$

where

$$\Psi(z) = f_{\text{sing}}(1, z) \quad (21)$$

To be more precise, Ψ can have different functional forms above (Ψ_+) and below (Ψ_-) T_c

Start with below T_c , at $h=0$

$$f_{\text{sing}}(\tau, 0) = \tau^{d/x} \Psi_-(0) \quad (22) \quad T < T_c$$

Take two derivatives w.r.t. τ to obtain

$$C_V \sim \tau^{d/x-2} \Psi_-(0) \quad (23)$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = 2 - \frac{d}{x} \quad (24)$$

Now the magnetization is

$$\langle \phi \rangle = - \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \right|_{h=0} = - \tau \frac{d}{x} \left. \frac{\partial \Psi_{-} \left(\frac{h}{\tau^{y/x}} \right)}{\partial h} \right|_{h=0} \quad (25)$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle = - \tau \frac{d-y}{x} \Psi'_{-}(0) \quad (26)$$

where the prime is differentiation w.r.t. to the argument.

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{d-y}{x} \quad (27)$$

Incidentally, applying this to $T > T_c$ shows that

$$\Psi'_{+}(0) = 0 \quad (28)$$

Now consider the susceptibility

$$\chi = - \left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial h^2} \right|_{h=0} = - \tau \frac{d-2y}{x} \Psi''_{\pm}(0) \quad (29)$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma = \frac{2y-d}{x} \quad (30)$$

There is a deep connection between the susceptibility and the correlation function

(31)

Recall

$$\langle \phi(\tau, h) \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}\phi(\bar{y}) e^{-\frac{S_0[\phi]}{T} + \frac{h}{T} \int d^d y \phi(\bar{y})} \phi(\bar{x})$$

$$\chi(\tau, h) = \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial h} \langle \phi(\tau, h) \rangle \right|_{h=0} \quad (32)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\bar{\lambda}^2} \frac{\partial \bar{\lambda}}{\partial h} \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-\frac{S_0[\phi]}{T} + \frac{h}{T} \int d^d y \phi(\bar{y})} \phi(\bar{x})$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\bar{\lambda}} \int \mathcal{D}\phi e^{-\frac{S_0[\phi]}{T} + \frac{h}{T} \int d^d y \phi(\bar{y})} \frac{1}{T} \int d^d y \phi(\bar{y}) \phi(\bar{x})$$

$$\left. \frac{1}{\bar{\lambda}} \frac{\partial \bar{\lambda}}{\partial h} \right|_{h=0} = \frac{1}{\bar{\lambda}} \frac{1}{T} \int \mathcal{D}\phi(\bar{y}) e^{-\frac{S_0[\phi]}{T}} \int d^d x \phi(\bar{x})$$

$$= \frac{N_0}{T} \langle \phi \rangle \quad (33)$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{T} \int d^d y \left\{ \langle \phi(\bar{x}) \phi(\bar{y}) \rangle - \langle \phi \rangle^2 \right\} = \frac{1}{T} \int d^d y \langle \phi(\bar{x}) \phi(\bar{y}) \rangle_c \quad (34)$$

Now we know that the connected correlator goes as

$$\frac{e^{-|\bar{x}-\bar{y}|/\xi}}{|\bar{x}-\bar{y}|^{d-2+\eta}}$$

So we want

$$\frac{1}{T} \int d^d y \frac{e^{-|\bar{y}|/\xi}}{y^{d-2+\eta}} \quad (35)$$

rescale

$$y \rightarrow y/\xi = \zeta \quad (36)$$

$$\chi = \frac{1}{T} \xi^{2-\eta} \int d^d \zeta \frac{e^{-\zeta}}{\zeta^{d-2+\eta}} \quad (37)$$

The integral has no dependence on τ, h

So, near T_c

$$\chi(\tau) \sim \tau^{-\gamma} = \tau^{-\nu(2-\eta)} \quad (38)$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma = \nu(2-\eta) \quad (39)$$

Now combine

$$\alpha = 2 - \frac{d}{x} \quad (24)$$

$$\beta = \frac{d-y}{x} \quad (27)$$

$$\gamma = \frac{2y-d}{x} \quad (30)$$

$$\frac{d}{x} = 2 - \alpha \quad (40) \Rightarrow \beta = 2 - \alpha - \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = 2 - \alpha - \beta \quad (41)$$

$$\text{So } \gamma = 2(2 - \alpha - \beta) - 2 + \alpha = 2 - \alpha - 2\beta \quad (42)$$

Now go back to (22) $T < T_c$

$$f_{\text{sing}} = \tau^{d/x} \hat{\Psi}_- \left(\frac{h}{\tau^{y/x}} \right)$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle = \tau^{\frac{d-y}{x}} \hat{\Psi}'_- \left(\frac{h}{\tau^{y/x}} \right) \quad (43)$$

Now take the limit $\tau \rightarrow 0$. We know, by definition, that in this limit

$$\langle \phi \rangle \sim h^{1/\delta}$$

This means that as $\delta = \frac{h}{\tau^{y/x}} \rightarrow \infty$

$$\Psi'(\delta) \sim \delta^{1/\delta} \quad (44)$$

$$\langle \phi \rangle \sim \tau^{\frac{d-y}{x}} \frac{h^{1/\delta}}{\tau^{y/\delta x}} \quad (45)$$

This should be finite as $\tau \rightarrow 0$ so the powers of τ should cancel!

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d-y}{x} = \frac{y}{\delta x} \quad (46)$$

$$\text{or } \frac{y}{d} = \frac{\delta}{\delta+1} \quad (47)$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{y}{x} = \frac{y/d}{x/d} = \frac{\frac{\delta}{\delta+1}}{\frac{1}{2-d}} = 2-d-\beta$$

$$\Rightarrow (2-d)\delta = (2-d-\beta)(\delta+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 2-d-\beta(\delta+1)$$

$$\alpha + \beta(\delta+1) = 2 \quad (48)$$

The scaling relations between the exponents (39), (42), (48) do not depend on d , and always hold.

The final relation has the dimension d in it and holds only below the "upper critical dimension" (4 for the Ising Model)

This argument says that the only relevant length scale for f_{sing} is the correlation length. Since f_{sing} has units of energy/volume

$$f_{\text{sing}}(\tau) = \frac{f_0}{\xi^d} = f_0 \tau^{\nu d} \quad (49)$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{1}{\nu} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha = 2 - \nu d \quad (50) \quad (51)$$

(51) is called hyperscaling.

As an example, for the 2D Ising Model

$$\alpha = 0 \quad \beta = \frac{1}{8} \quad \gamma = \frac{7}{4} \quad (52)$$

$$\nu = \frac{2 - \alpha}{d} = \frac{2}{d} = 1 \quad (53)$$

$$\gamma = \nu(2 - \eta) \Rightarrow \eta = 2 - \frac{\gamma}{\nu} = 2 - \frac{7}{4} = \frac{1}{4} \quad (54)$$

$$\alpha + \beta(\delta + 1) = 2 \Rightarrow \delta + 1 = \frac{2}{\beta} = 16 \quad \delta = 15 \quad (55)$$